

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hotchkiss, et al.	Art Unit: 2168
Application No.: 10/710,866	Examiner: Chyne Dune Ly
Filed: 8/9/2004	Attorney Docket No.: 800760
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR REGULATORY RULES REPOSITORY GENERATION AND MAINTENANCE	

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**Introductory Comments**

Please enter the following specification and claim amendments in response to the Office Action received from the Office having a mail date of June 4, 2007. In that correspondence, the Office has rejected claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112 and 101, objected claim 37 under 37 CFR 1.75, rejected claims 15-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a), and rejected claims 31-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Applicants have amended the independent claims 1, 15 and 24 as suggested by the Office to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112 and 101, and canceled claim 37. The specification has been amended to include a first paragraph that declares the present application as a continuation-in-part application of prior filed U.S. Patent Application No. 10/249,784, filed on May 7, 2003, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/518,837, filed on March 3, 2000. In support of the specification amendment, included with this response are a fee set forth under 37 CFR 1.17(t) and a petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. § 120, including a statement that the entire delay between the date that the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date that the claim was filed was unintentional. Since the priority date of the current application under consideration is derived from U.S. Patent Application No. 10/249,784,

filed on May 7, 2003, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/518,837, filed on March 3, 2000, the priority date of the current application under consideration pre-dates the priority date of the LaBonty et al. reference. Therefore, the rejections of claims 15-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) and claims 31-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are mute.

Entering of the following amendments, reconsideration and reexamination of the application are requested. Support for all amendments is found within the specification. No new matter has been entered as a result of these amendments.